

Message Text

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IO FOR DALLEY AND MILLS

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SUBJECT: RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TO ILO AFRICAN REGIONAL CON-
FERENCE, SEPTEMBER 27-OCTOBER 6, 1977

1. FOURTEEN RESOLUTIONS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE
AFRICAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE. RESOLUTIONS MUST BE
SUBMITTED BY ACCREDITED DELEGATES, AND SO FAR ONLY ONE
RESOLUTION HAS MET THIS REQUIREMENT. OF THE REMAINING
13 RESOLUTIONS, ALL EXCEPT TWO ARE NON-POLITICAL; THE
POLITICAL RESOLUTIONS CONCERN (1) APARTHEID AND LIBERATION
MOVEMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND (2)
APARTHEID, COLONIALISM, RACISM, NEO-COLONIALISM, AND
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ZIONISM (SEE TEXTS BELOW). THE LATTER RESOLUTION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE
TRADE UNION CONGRESS OF GHANA; ILO DIRECTOR-GENERAL
BLANCHARD HOPES TO CONVINCE THE SPONSORS TO WITHDRAW
THE RESOLUTION OR, IF THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE, TO AMEND
IT TO REMOVE THE REFERENCES TO ZIONISM AND ISRAEL.
BLANCHARD ARRIVES ABIDJAN SEPTEMBER 27. THE ILO LEGAL
ADVISER (FRANCIS WOLF); THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL
FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS (SACIKA OF ZAMBIA); ELIMAN KANE
(A MAURITANIAN WHO HEADS THE ILO OFFICE IN NEW YORK);
AND MUKHERJEE (AN INDIAN NATIONAL IN CHARGE OF WORKERS

RELATIONS) ARE ALREADY IN ABIDJAN. DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL BERTIL BOLIN (WHO WILL HEAD THE ILO SECRETARIAT AT THE CONFERENCE) WILL ARRIVE THIS WEEKEND. ALL OF THE ABOVE ILO REPRESENTATIVES ARE APPROACHABLE, FAMILIAR WITH US POLICY, AND SPEAK ENGLISH. KANE (WHOSE NAME IS PRONOUNCED KAHN) IS POLITICALLY SAVVY, WELL KNOWN TO THE U.S. LABOR MOVEMENT, AND LIKELY TO BE THE BEST WORKING CONTACT FOR THE EMBASSY. THE TEXT OF THE POLITICAL RESOLUTIONS FOLLOWS:

2. DRAFT RESOLUTION ON APARTHEID, COLONIALISM, RACISM AND NEO-COLONIALISM AND ZIONISM BY GHANA TUC

THE ILO FIFTH AFRICAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE MEETING IN ABIDJAN, REPUBLIC OF IVORY COAST FROM 26 SEPT. TO 6 OCTOBER 1977;

GRAVELY CONCERNED AT THE GENERAL THREAT TO WORLD PEACE GENERATED BY THE RACIST MINORITY REGIMES IN SOUTH AFRICA AND ZIMBABWE THROUGH RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND THE ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF NAMIBIA;

PERTURBED AT THE IMPUDENCE WITH WHICH ISRAEL TREATS WORLD OPINION AND FLAGRANTLY VIOLATES UNITED NATIONS CHARTER BY CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF ARAB LAND;
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AWARE OF THE COLONIALIST, IMPERIALIST AND NEO-COLONIALIST GENERAL COLLABORATION IN PERPETUATING RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND SUBJEGATING MILLIONS OF INNOCENT CHILDREN, MEN AND WOMEN TO THE STATUS OF SLAVERY;

NOTING THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAS CONDEMNED THE EVIL SYSTEM OF APARTHEID AS A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY AND HAS ALSO CONDEMNED THE ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF ARAB LAND;

1. THE CONFERENCE DECLARES ITS FULL SUPPORT TO THE LEGITIMATE ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA, NAMIBIA AND ZIMBABWE AND CALLS UPON THE RACIST PRETORIA MINORITY REGIME TO END THE ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF NAMIBIA;

2. THE CONFERENCE REITERATES THE GLOBAL ABHORENCE OF THE EVIL POLICY OF APARTHEID AND THE ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF TERRITORY OF OTHER MEMBER STATES AND THE DETERMINATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMANDING TO SECURE SPEDY SOLUTIONS TO THESE PROBLEMS;

3. THE CONFERENCE REJECTS ALL ASPECTS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND ALL RACIST MANIPULATIONS INCLUDING THE BANTUSTAN IDEA WHICH DIVIDES THE POPULATION, DEPRIVE THE AFRICAN MAJORITY OF THEIR CITIZENSHIP AND IN ALIENABLE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATIONS AND DENY THEM A JUST SHARE OF THE WEALTH OF THEIR MOTHERLAND;

4. THE CONFERENCE CALLS UPON ISRAEL TO END THE MILITARY,
NUCLEAR AND SECRET COMMERCIAL COLLABORATION WITH RACIST
SOUTHERN AFRICA THROUGH EUROPEAN BASED COMPANIES AND ALSO
TO END THE ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF ARAB LAND;

5. THE CONFERENCE CALLS UPON ALL GOVERNMENTS, INTER-GOVERNMENT-
AL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS AND ALL PEACE LOVING
PEOPLE OF THE WORLD TO INTENSIFY THE UNIVERSAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST
APARTHEID, TO ASSIST THE SOUTH AFRICAN PEOPLE AND THEIR LIBER-
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ATION MOVEMENTS AND TO ENSURE:

- A) THE TOTAL ISOLATION OF THE RACIST MINORITY REGIMES
IN SOUTHERN AFRICA;
- B) THE ABROGATION OF ALL RACIAL DISCRIMINATORY AND MEASURES
AND THE DISMANTLING OF THE ENTIRE EVIL SYSTEM OF APARTHEID;
- C) THE ENDING OF ALL REPRESSION AGAINST THE OPPONENTS OF
APARTHEID AND THE IMMEDIATE THD UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF ALL
PEOPLE, IMPRISONED, DETAINED, RESTRICTED OR EXILED FOR THEIR
OPPOSITION TO APARTHEID;
- D) THE REMOVAL OF THE ILLEGAL SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES OF
OCCUPATION IN NAMIBIA AND COMPLIANCE BY THE APARTHEID MINORITY
REGIME WITH THE RELEVANT SECUTIRY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS,
PARTICULARLY RESOLUTION 385 (1976);
- E) COMPLIANCE BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME WITH SECURITY
COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS ON SOUTHERN RHODESIA AND FULL IMPLEMENTATION
OF SANCTIONS AGAINST THE RACIST MINORITY REGIME INCLUDING A
TOTAL OIL EMBARGO;
- F) IMMEDIATE CESSATION BY THE VORSTER MINORITY APARTHEID
REGIME OF ALL AGGRESSIVE ACTS AND THREATS AGAINST THE INDEPENDENCE
,
SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF ZAMBIA, MOZAMBIQUE
AND ANGOLA;
- G) CALLS UPON THE ISRAEL REGIME TO STOP ITS PROVOCATIVE SETTLE-
MENTS ON THE OCCUPIED ARAB LANDS AND TO WITHDRAW TO THE
PRE-1967 WAR BOUNDARY.

3. RESOLUTION CONCERNING ILO ACTION AGAINST APARTHEID AND ASSIS-
TANCE TO LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

THE FIFTH AFRICAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL
LABOUR ORGANISATION,

HAVING MET IN ABIDJAN FROM 27 SEPTEMBER TO 6 OCTOBER 1977,
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RECALLING THAT IN 1964 THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE
ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY A DECLARATION CONCERNING THE POLICY

OF APARTHEID OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA IN WHICH IT AFFIRMED ITS CONDEMNATION OF THE "DEGRADING CRIMINAL AND INHUMAN RACIAL POLICIES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA, WHICH POLICIES ARE A VIOLATION OF FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS AND THUS INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE ILO",

RECALLING THAT THE ILO HAS PROCLAIMED A DETAILED, COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMME FOR THE ELIMINATION OF APARTHEID IN LABOUR MATTERS IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA, CALLING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION IN SOUTH AFRICA OF MEASURES TO ENSURE EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY IN RESPECT OF ADMISSION TO EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING, FREEDOM FROM FORCED LABOUR, AND FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION AND THE RIGHTS TO ORGANISE,

RECALLING THAT THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE HAS PERSISTENTLY DRAWN ATTENTION TO THE WAY IN WHICH APARTHEID HAS BEEN APPLIED, AND TO ITS HARSH AND OPPRESSIVE EFFECTS IN THE FIELD OF LABOUR, THROUGH THE SPECIAL REPORT ON THE APPLICATION OF THE DECLARATION CONCERNING THE POLICY OF APARTHEID IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA WHICH HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE EACH YEAR SINCE 1965,

NOTING WITH INDIGNATION AND CONCERN THE DETERIORATION OF THE POSITION AFFECTING BLACK WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN SOUTH AFRICA AS DISCLOSED IN THE 13TH SPECIAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL TO THE 63RD SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE IN JUNE 1977, AND THE TRAGIC EVENTS WHICH HAVE FOLLOVED THE POLICE INTERVENTION AT SOWETO AND ELSEWHERE, NOTING THAT THE URGENT NEED FOR ACTION TO COMBAT APARTHEID WAS THE SUBJECT OF THE DECISIONS OF THE 2ND INTERNATIONAL TRADE UNION CONFERENCE AGAINST APARTHEID, HELD IN GENEVA IN JUNE 1977, AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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OF AN APPEAL FOR THE FULFILMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA'S OBLIGATION IN RESPECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE REPEAL OF DISCRIMINATORY LEGISLATION BY THE EMPLOYER VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE 63RD SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE,

NOTING FURTHER THAT GOVERNMENTS OF 111 NATIONS ASSEMBLED AT THE WORLD CONFERENCE FOR ACTION AGAINST APARTHEID, HELD IN LAGOS FROM 22-26 AUGUST 1977 ADOPTED THE LAGOS DECLARATION AGAINST APARTHEID WHICH, INTER ALIA,

(A) RECOGNISED THE URGENT NEED FOR ECONOMIC AND OTHER MEASURES TO BE APPLIED UNIVERSALLY TO SECURE THE ELIMINATION OF APARTHEID, AND CALLED FOR FULL SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE ORGANISATION OF AFRICAN UNITY AND THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS RECOGNISED BY IT, IN ORDER TO ENABLE THE SOUTH AFRICAN PEOPLE

AS A WHOLE TO ATTAIN THEIR INALIENABLE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION,

(B) PLEDGED ITS FULL SUPPORT TO THE LEGITIMATE ASPIRATIONS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PEOPLES AND URGED GOVERNMENTS, ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS TO PROVIDE ALL APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE TO THE OPPRESSED PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA AND THEIR NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT IN THEIR JUST STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM AND HUMAN EQUALITY,

(C) DECLARED THAT SOUTH AFRICA BELONGS TO ALL ITS PEOPLE, IRRESPECTIVE OF RACE, COLOUR OR CREED, THAT ALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO LIVE AND WORK THERE IN CONDITIONS OF FULL EQUALITY, AND THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAS AN INESCAPABLE DUTY TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY MEASURES TO ENSURE THE TRIUMPH OF FREEDOM AND HUMAN EQUALITY IN SOUTH AFRICA,

(D) CALLED UPON GOVERNMENTS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND NON-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS TO INTENSIFY THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE FURTHER ISOLATION OF THE APARTHEID REGIME WITH A VIEW TO COMPLEMENTING THE EFFORTS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PEOPLE AND THEIR NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT,

(E) FURTHER CALLED UPON THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO ASSIST STATES WHICH HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO PRESSURE, THREATS OR ACTS OF AGGRESSION BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME BECAUSE OF THEIR OPPOSITION TO APARTHEID AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTIONS AGAINST APARTHEID, AND FOR THE PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE TO THE VICTIMS OF OPPRESSION AND OF APPROPRIATE SUPPORT TO THEIR NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN CONSULTATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE OAU;

RECALLING WITH SATISFACTION THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE TO INCREASE ASSISTANCE TO THE PEOPLES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THEIR LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, AND THE EFFORTS OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE IN CONTINUING TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON THE HARMFUL, DANGEROUS AND REPRESSIVE CHARACTER OF APARTHEID THROUGH THE SPECIAL REPORT WHICH HE PRESENTS, AND SHOULD CONTINUE TO PRESENT, ANNUALLY TO THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE;

REQUESTS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE TO TAKE ACTION, WITHIN THE SPHERE OF COMPETENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION, IN FURTHERANCE OF THE PRINCIPLES CONTAINED IN THE LAGOS DECLARATION OF THE WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST APARTHEID, AND IN PARTICULAR TO FURTHER EXTEND ALL POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE TO THE PEOPLES AND LIBERATION MOVEMENTS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA IN CLOSE CO-OPERATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANISATION OF AFRICAN UNITY,

FURTHER REQUESTS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE INTERNATIONAL
LABOUR OFFICE AND THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE TO JOIN
THE UNITED NATIONS IN THE OBSERVANCE OF 1978 AS INTERNATIONAL
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YEAR AGAINST APARTHEID, AND AS PART OF ITS CONTRIBUTION TO IT,
TAKE EFFECTIVE MEASURES AS A MATTER OF URGENCY FOR THE ERAD-
ICATION OF APARTHEID IN THE FIELD OF LABOUR BY GOVERNMENTS,
WORKERS' AND EMPLOYERS' ORGANISATIONS.

4. THE TEXT OF ALL THE RESOLUTIONS HAVE BEEN POUCHED
TO THE DEPARTMENT.VANDEN HEUVEL. UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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